

Chestertown

privately owned by a corporation, used as offices, and meeting quarters for the Masons

Stam Hall, in its important location near the Court House, gives the town an interesting example of an unusual style of architecture for this area - High Victorian after the manner of the Second Empire Style. Its eclecticism makes it an interesting comparison to its neighbors the retardataire Masonic Temple and the White Swan Tavern, built in the 1700s. Georgian

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Stam Hall

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

corner High and Lawyers' Row

First

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Kent

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☒ YES: RESTRICTED on business  
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM  
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK  
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☒ RELIGIOUS  
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ MILITARY ☒ OTHER

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Chester Holding Corporation

Telephone #: -

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Chestertown,

Md. 21620

CITY, TOWN

STATE, zip code

VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Office of the County Clerk

Liber #: WHG 15

Folio #: 613

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Kent County Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Chestertown

STATE

Md.

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

none known

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

## 7 DESCRIPTION

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### CONDITION

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

☐ UNALTERED  
☒ ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED      DATE \_\_\_\_\_

### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

Stam Hall is an extremely ornate, busy, eclectic, 3½ story building. It is in the High Victorian style after the manner of the Second Empire Style with a corner tower housing the town clock. There is a mansard roof with rounded French dormers both on High and Court Streets.

The elaborate Cross St. entrance to the 2nd floor where the present day Masons meet has free standing Ionic columns built out from the building and supporting a denticulated entablature. Those windows which are unaltered have cantilevered brick arches with stone keystones. The building is basically unaltered except for windows and doors on the 1st floor. On the corners of the building on both High and Cross Sts. the brickwork shows quoins. Such brick work is also on the High St. side of the tower.

The faded plaques on the 3rd floor level give the name Stam Hall and date of 1886 when built for Colin F. Stam.

The facade between the 1st and 2nd floors is punctuated by a multiple belt course of wood, brick, and perhaps painted mortar.

Offices plus the Masons' meeting quarters are presently located in Stam Hall.

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

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PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES 1886, date on bldg. BUILDER/ARCHITECT records say built by Colin F. Stam, owner, but builder is not given

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Stam Building, being so large, and in its important location in Chestertown is significant to the town in its unusual style of architecture - High Victorian after the manner of the Second Empire Style. Its eclectic ornate style is an interesting comparison to its neighbors, the retardataire Georgian Masonic Temple and across the street the White Swan Tavern of the 1700s.

It seems obvious that the town citizens felt an important part of this building for they subscribed to the town clock which is still working and in the tower for about \$1,000.00 in 1866-69.

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**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

F. G. Usilton "History of Kent County"

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 4,630 sq. ft.

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

4.630 sq. ft. corner High and Lawyers' Row

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
STATE	COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE	
<u>Kathleen B. White, Historic Site Surveyor</u>	<u>Sept. 1976</u>
ORGANIZATION	DATE
<u>Md. Historical Trust/City of Chestertown</u>	
STREET & NUMBER	TELEPHONE
CITY OR TOWN	STATE

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

STAM HALL corner High and Lawyers Row or  
Court St.

WHG 15/613 7/1/50 Dora B. and John Kunkel to Chester Holding Corp., 4630 sq. ft., corner High and Lawyers Row.

RAS 38/622 4/16/46 Howard C. Ely and Elizabeth J. to Dora B. Kunkel

RAS 38/514 3/29/46 The New Lyceum Theatre Corp. to Elizabeth J. Eley "premises cannot be used for amusement purposes, theatre, vaudeville house, motion picture house, or a public place of amusement in any form."

RAS 33/21 12/27/43 Harry S. Russell, Rebecca A., Emerson R. Russell and Frances R., Inez Russell, Elizabeth Russell Thibodeau to The New Lyceum Theatre Corp. \$40,000.00. Stam's Hall property.

RAS 16/330 8/20/36 The Lyceum Theater and Amusement Co. to L. Bates Russell Sr. (who willed it to above EE1/297 and RAS 32/292) "Stam's Hall property".

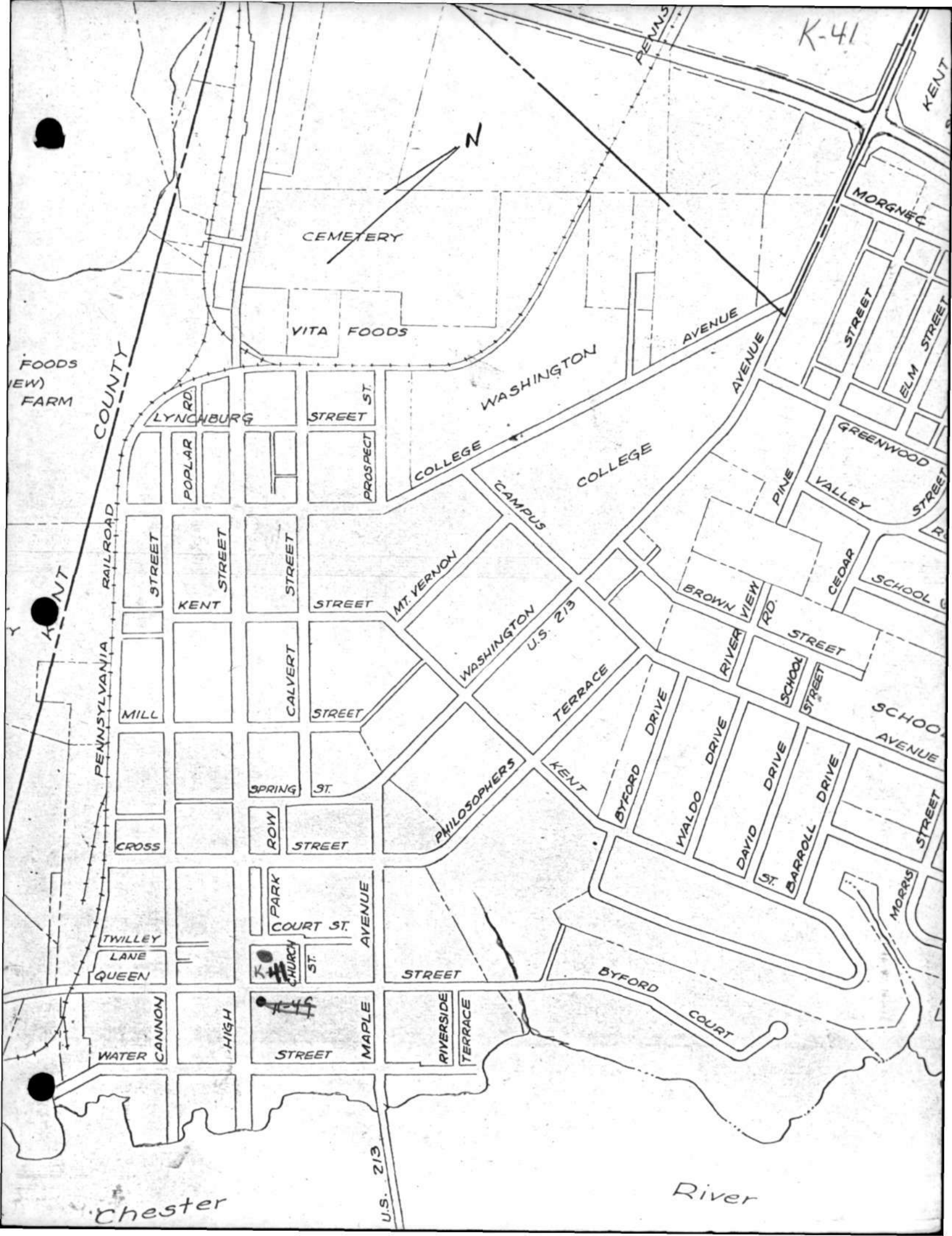
JTD 27/126 9/13/12 R. Hynson Rogers and Wm. M. Slay, Trustees of Hynsons (children-minors) to Lyceum Theatre and Amusement Co., "Stam's Hall Property", by Circuit Court decree of 9/13/12 giving permission to sell. \$10,000.00.

JTD 12/560 12/3/05 Hope H. Barroll, Attny. to R. D. Hynson, \$12,500.00. public sale made 8/29/05 by Barroll, "by special power of sale vested in him as Attorney in and by a certain mortgage from the Colin F. Stam Hall Company. 11/29/04. Colin F. Stam Co. two notes to 2nd Nat. Bank for \$4,650.00 each.

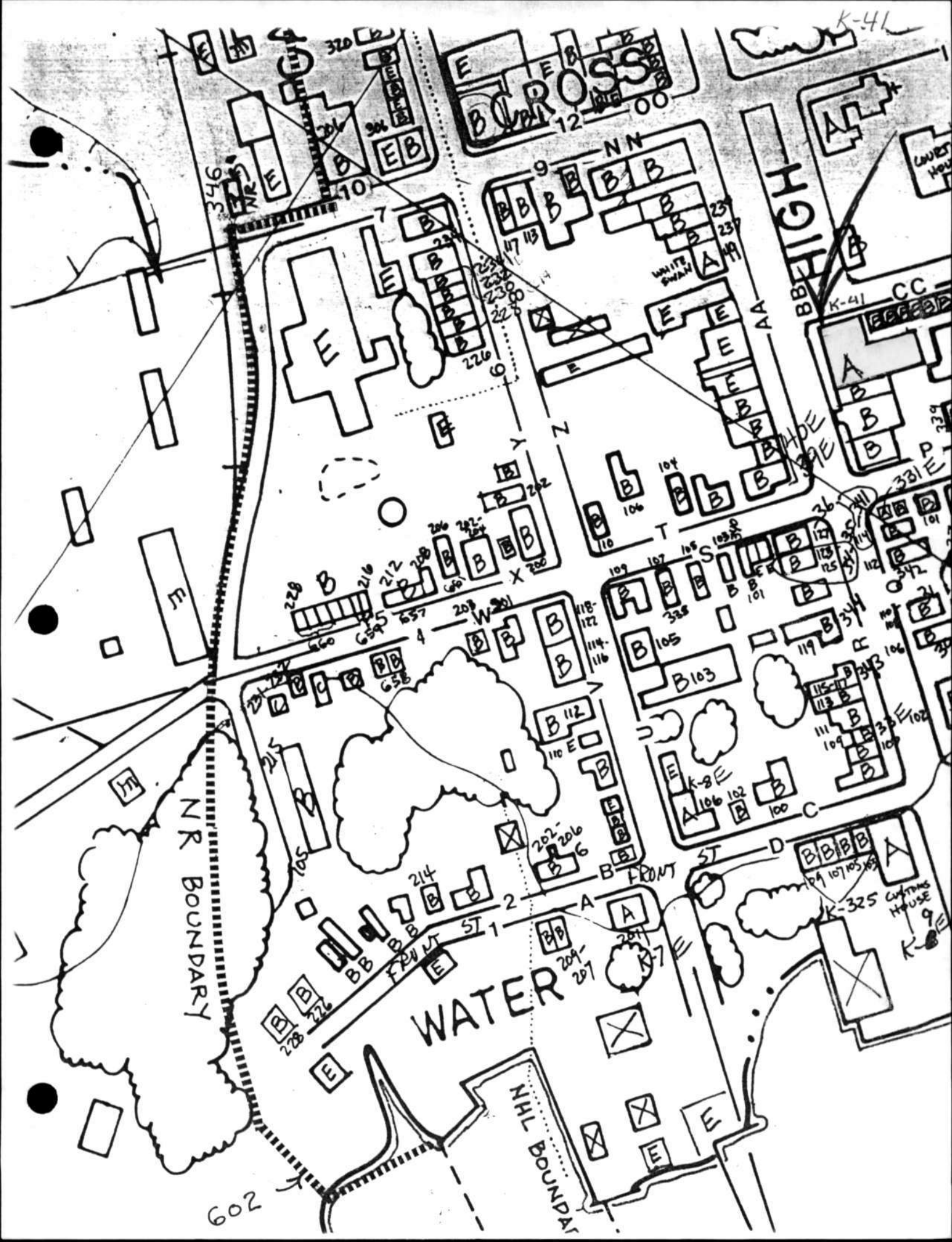
SGF 6/465 1/17/98 Colin F. and Annie H. Stam to the Colin F. Stam Hall Co. of Kent County, Md. \$12,500.00, building on lot and furnishings.

JKH 9/93 2/5/69 Elizabeth Walker to John L. Stam for \$5,000.00 part of lot of land #35, corner High & Court Sts. John L. Stam wills it (JGS 1/273) to son Colin F. who had Stam Hall built in 1886 at a cost of about \$15,000 according to F.G. Usilton. According to E. G. Usilton the town clock was subscribed by local citizens at about \$1,000.00.

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K-41  
Stam Hall  
High St. and Court St.  
Chestertown  
Chestertown Quad.  
Kent County





Stam Hall - K-41

K-41

MOB 3/68

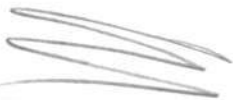


L-411

Stam Hall

. 89 - 152

Pg 37



same size

~~150~~  
~~151~~  
~~152~~

er four





K49 Stam Hall

1/77 W



K 49 Star Hall

1/77 SW